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5-KA BROADCAST

18/11/70.

C.O. Theme - Opening and hold under for

ANN: This is a broadcast by the Premier of South Australia,
Mr. Don Dunstan, on behalf of the Australian Labor Party.

GOOD EVENING:

AT THE SENATE ELECTION ON SATURDAY SOUTH AUSTRALIANS WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE A MOVE TOWARDS ENDING THE LOUSY DEAL THEY'VE BEEN GETTING FROM THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT. AND THAT IS BECAUSE THE SENATE IS BY TRADITION A 'STATES' HOUSE'. THE STATES ARE EQUALLY REPRESENTED THERE. BUT THE TROUBLE AT THE MOMENT IS THAT THE LIBERAL-COUNTRY PARTY SENATORS, IN THEIR ALLIANCE WITH THE DEMOCRATIC LABOR PARTY, HAVE CONSISTENTLY REFUSED TO PERFORM THE FUNCTION THEY WERE SENT THERE TO PERFORM. THEY HAVE NOT GIVEN SOUTH AUSTRALIA THE PROTECTION IT CLEARLY NEEDS.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA HAS BEEN TREATED BADLY BY THE COMMONWEALTH FOR NIGH ON TWENTY YEARS NOW - EVER SINCE IT BECAME EVIDENT TO THE LIBERAL COUNTRY PARTY IN CANBERRA THAT, DESPITE THE JERRY MANDERING OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, SOUTH AUSTRALIANS WERE CONSISTENTLY VOTING FOR LABOR.

IT WAS OBVIOUS TO THE PLANNERS IN THE LIBERAL PARTY THAT THERE WERE MORE VOTES TO BE PICKED UP IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA OR NEW SOUTH WALES THAN IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA - AND HENCE THERE HAS BEEN OVER THE YEARS A PROGRESSIVE FEATHERING OF THE NEW SOUTH WALES AND THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NESTS. SPEND MONEY WHERE THE VOTES POSSIBLY WERE WAS THE ARGUMENT - AND DAMN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

THE INSTANCES OF FEDERAL DISREGARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S LEGITIMATE CLAIMS FOR FINANCIAL OR DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE OVER THE PAST DECADE WOULD TAKE MORE THAN A THREE MINUTE TALK TO OUTLINE. SOUTH AUSTRALIANS HAVE ONLY TO REMEMBER THAT IN THE PAST FIVE MONTHS THERE HAVE BEEN A HALF A DOZEN QUITE SPECTACULAR INSTANCES OF FEDERAL BIAS AGAINST THE STATE. THERE HAS BEEN THE PRIME MINISTER'S WHEELING AND DEALING WITH OTHER STATE PREMIERS OVER HOW MOST EFFICIENTLY TO BE INTRANSIGENT OVER THE CHOWILLA DAM.

THERE HAS BEEN MR. GORTON'S COMPLETE LAXITY OVER THE QUESTION OF WHETHER ADELAIDE INDUSTRIES ARE TO BE JOINED TO THE ALL-STATES STANDARD GAUGE RAILWAY LINE AT PORT PIRIE. THERE HAS BEEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS CONSISTENT USE OF THE CREDIT SQUEEZE AND STOP-GO BUDGETARY PRACTICES, DESPITE THE WAY THEY HAVE DISASTROUS.

EFFECT ON SOUTH AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRIES.

IN ADDITION, THE LAST FEDERAL BUDGET SAW SALES TAXES EXTENDED TO WINE PRODUCTS, WHICH IS A MAJOR SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RURAL INDUSTRY AND THE ONLY ONE NOT UNTIL THEN SUFFERING FROM FEDERAL MISHANDLING OF RURAL ECONOMICS.

BUT PERHAPS ONE OF THE MOST GLARING EXAMPLES OF DISREGARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA BY CANBERRA CAN BE SEEN IN THE WAY, THROUGH INEPTITUDE AND OTHERWISE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA REMAINS OUT IN THE COLD WITH TRANSPORT. IN ADDITION TO THE LACK OF COMMONWEALTH ACTION OVER THE STANDARD GAUGE RAILWAY LINE, WE ARE THE ONLY MAINLAND STATE WITHOUT CONTAINER PORT FACILITIES, AND WITHOUT AN INTERNATIONAL AIR TERMINAL. BOTH OF THESE LATTER SITUATIONS PUT US, AS AN INDUSTRIAL CENTER, AT A REAL DISADVANTAGE. FOR INSTANCE, AN INDUSTRY AIR-FREIGHTING FROM ADELAIDE TO SAN FRANCISCO WOULD PAY 10.5% MORE THAN FROM SYDNEY AND 5.9% MORE THAN FROM MELBOURNE. FROM ADELAIDE TO LONDON, THE INDUSTRY WOULD PAY 80% MORE THAN FROM SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE. AND FROM ADELAIDE TO SINGAPORE, IT WOULD PAY 16% MORE THAN FROM SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

WITH AIR FREIGHT IT COSTS ABOUT 17c. PER POUND MORE TO SHIP FROM ADELAIDE THAN IT DOES FROM SYDNEY, AND ABOUT 10c. PER POUND MORE THAN FROM MELBOURNE.

THIS IS A SITUATION THAT COULD BE ENDED QUICKLY WERE THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT REALLY INTERESTED IN HELPING SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S DEVELOPMENT. ADELAIDE MUST, WITHIN FIVE YEARS, GET AN INTERNATIONAL AIR FACILITY. BUT IN THIS WE CAN'T OF COURSE HOPE FOR HELP FROM CANBERRA - BECAUSE THE KIND OF OVERALL PLANNING NECESSARY HAS NEVER BEEN DONE BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

WE CAN, HOWEVER, EXPECT HELP FROM A LABOR SENATE. A LABOR SENATE MAKES SENSE, BECAUSE IT WOULD ENSURE THAT SOUTH AUSTRALIANS RECEIVED MORE PROTECTION IN CANBERRA.

GOOD NIGHT.